Docket No.: A8319.0013/P013-A (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Kazutoshi Higashiyama et al.

Application No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED Confirmation No.:

Filed: Art Unit: N/A

For: HYDROGEN PRODUCING Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

Copies of the references on the PTO/SB/08 are not provided.

Those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with a double asterisk (**) next to the Cite No. in the attached form PTO/SB/08 (facsimile) are not supplied

because they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application number 10/068,837, filed February 11, 2002 and relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1073, under Order No. A8319.0013/P013-A. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: March 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

Mark J. Thronson

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Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known		
				Application Number	NOT YET ASSIGNED	
IN	NFORMATION	V DI	SCLOSURE	Filing Date	March 18, 2004	
S	STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			First Named Inventor	Kazutoshi Higashiyama	
				Art Unit	N/A	
	(Use as many sh	eets as	s necessary)	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	A8319.0013/P013-A	

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
Initials*	No.1	Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY				
	AA**	US-6,613,465	09/2003	Yamaoka et al.			
	AB**	US-6,586,126	07/2003	Ogawa et al.			
	AC**	US-6,497,970	12/2002	Fronk			
	AD**	US-6,420,060	07/2002	Yamamoto et al.			
	AE**	US-6,383,670	07/2002	Edlund et al.			
	AF**	US-5,648,182	07/1997	Hara et al.			
	AG**	US-2002/0048698	04/2002	Fronk			

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)						
	BA**	JP-2000-53403	02-22-2000	Yamashita et al.				
	BB**	JP-11-317234	11-16-1999	Tagunta				

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \(^1\)Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). \(^2\)See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. \(^3\)Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). \(^4\)For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. \(^5\)Kind of document by the appropriate symptosis as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. \(^6\)Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²		
	CA**	Hiroo Tominaga and Masakazu Tamaki (supervision), "Chemical Reaction and Reactor Design," Maruzen Co., Ltd., 1996, pp. 220-223			

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.